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Counsel to Alfred H. Siegel, as Trustee of the Circuit City Stores, Inc. Liquidating Trust

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA **RICHMOND DIVISION**

	)
In Re:	) Case No. 08-35653-KRH
	)
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., et al., <sup>1</sup>	) Chapter 11
	)
Debtors.	) (Jointly Administered)
	)

#### STIPULATION AND AGREED ORDER IN THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION

Brandi M. Evans-Fose ("Ms. Fose"), David G. Fose ("Mr. Fose") and Alfred H. Siegel, as Trustee (the "Trustee"), and not individually, but solely in his capacity as the Liquidating Trustee of the Circuit City Stores, Inc. Liquidating Trust (the "Trust," and together with the Trustee, Ms. Fose, and Mr. Fose, the "Parties"), have conferred by and through their respective counsel and, subject to approval of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "Case"), along with the last four digits of their respective federal tax identification numbers, are as follows: Circuit City Stores, Inc. (3875), Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. (0785), InterTAN, Inc. (0875), Ventoux International, Inc. (1838), Circuit City Purchasing Company, LLC (5170), CC Aviation, LLC (0841), CC Distribution Company of Virginia, Inc. (2821), Circuit City Properties, LLC (3353), Kinzer Technology, LLC (2157), Abbott Advertising Agency, Inc. (4659), Patapsco Designs, Inc. (6796), Sky Venture Corp. (0311), Prahs, Inc. (n/a), XSStuff, LLC (9263), Mayland MN, LLC (6116), Courchevel, LLC (n/a), Orbys Electronics, LLC (3360), and Circuit City Stores PR, LLC (5512).

Virginia (the "Bankruptcy Court"), HEREBY STIPULATE AND AGREE (the "Stipulation") AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2010, the Bankruptcy Court entered its *Findings of Fact*, Conclusions of Law and Order Confirming Modified Second Amended Joint Plan of Liquidation of Circuit City Stores, Inc. and its Affiliated Debtors (the "Confirmation Order"), which, inter alia, confirmed the Modified Second Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan"), and established the Trust; and

WHEREAS, the Trust maintains custody of certain of Circuit City Stores, Inc.'s (together with its affiliated companies, "Circuit City") books and records; and

WHEREAS, a former Trust employee, Ms. Fose, is a named party in a divorce action adverse to Mr. Fose currently pending in the Circuit Court for the County of Hanover, Virginia, Case No. CL18-2342 (the "<u>Hanover Action</u>"); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fose, through his divorce counsel, served, with neither notice nor leave of the Bankruptcy Court, the Trust with several Subpoenas *Duces Tecum* pertaining to, *inter alia*, Ms. Fose's earnings, retirement plans, etc. and issued Subpoenas for Witness (Civil) to Katie Bradshaw ("Ms. Bradshaw") and Jeff McDonald ("Mr. McDonald"), both in their capacity as Trust employees, and all pertaining to the Hanover Action (collectively, the "Hanover Subpoenas"); and

WHEREAS, the Hanover Subpoenas were issued in contravention of the Confirmation Order notwithstanding that the Trust had twice previously (a) informed Mr. Fose, through counsel, that leave of the Bankruptcy Court (as defined below) was necessary before any subpoenas could be issued and (b) provided to Mr. Fose through counsel the requisite case

authority for the same. Accordingly, upon learning of the violation of the Confirmation Order with the attempted issuance of the Hanover Subpoenas, the Trust filed its *Motion of the Circuit City Stores, Inc. Liquidating Trust to Enforce Terms of Confirmed Plan, for Protection from Foreign Subpoenas, and for Order to Show Cause as to Why Stiles Ewing Powers PC, Michael S. Ewing, Esquire, Mollie C. Barton, Esquire, and David G. Fose Should Not Be Held in Contempt (the "Contempt Motion");* and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2019, the Bankruptcy Court entered an Order (the "<u>Contempt Order</u>") voiding the Hanover Subpoenas and continuing generally the contempt relief sought in the Contempt Motion subject to the filing of an additional notice of hearing to be held on not less than twenty-one (21) days' notice; and

WHEREAS, after entry of the Contempt Order, Mr. Fose inquired as to whether the Trustee on behalf of the Trust would agree to allow limited participation of Ms. Bradshaw and Mr. McDonald in the Hanover Action and, thereafter, a stipulation and order was entered by the Bankruptcy Court between the Trust and Mr. Fose in an attempt to address the limited involvement of Trust personnel in the underlying evidentiary issues in the Hanover Action; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, Ms. Fose expressed a desire to have Trust personnel participate in the underlying Hanover Action in a limited, specified manner; and

WHEREAS, due to global COVID-19 pandemic, the Hanover Action was continued generally and was recently rescheduled for December 10 and 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fose and Ms. Fose have again requested the Trustee on behalf of the Trust to agree to allow limited participation of Ms. Bradshaw and Mr. McDonald in the Hanover Action; and

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WHEREAS, the Trustee on behalf of the Trust is agreeable to allow limited, specified participation of Ms. Bradshaw and Mr. McDonald in the Hanover Action subject to this Bankruptcy Court's approval of the terms of said agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have entered into this Stipulation and Agreed Order.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties hereby stipulate and agree as follows, by and through their respective counsel of record, and it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows:

- 1. Ms. Bradshaw's Limited Trial Testimony. Ms. Bradshaw will appear at the Hanover Action trial without the need or issuance of a subpoena. The scope of the trial questioning and testimony relating to the Trust shall be agreed upon in advance by Ms. Fose, Mr. Fose, and the Trust and, if no said agreement can be reached, same shall be submitted to the Bankruptcy Court for determination. No other testimony will be required of Ms. Bradshaw. Mr. Fose and Ms. Fose will coordinate and provide Ms. Bradshaw with a three-hour window in which she should be at the Hanover Circuit Court for trial at least five days prior to the start of trial, and Ms. Bradshaw shall not be required to be present for the entire trial. Ms. Bradshaw shall only be at the courthouse for that three-hour window so that she may return to duties for the Trust.
- 2. <u>Mr. McDonald's Limited Trial Testimony</u>. Mr. McDonald will appear at the Hanover Action trial without the need or issuance of a subpoena. The scope of the trial questioning and testimony relating to the Trust shall be agreed upon in advance by Ms. Fose, Mr. Fose, and the Trust and, if no said agreement can be reached, same shall be submitted to the Bankruptcy Court for determination. The scope of the trial questioning and testimony not

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relating to the Trust shall be agreed upon in advance by Ms. Fose, Mr. Fose, and Mr.

McDonald's personal counsel. Ms. Fose and Mr. Fose will coordinate and provide Mr.

McDonald with a four-hour window in which he should be at the Hanover Circuit Court for trial

at least five days prior to the start of trial, and Mr. McDonald shall not be required to be present

for the entire trial. Mr. McDonald shall only be at the courthouse for that four-hour window so

that he may return to duties for the Trust.

3. <u>No Other Deposition/Trial Testimony</u>. Other than the trial testimony of Ms.

Bradshaw and Mr. McDonald, as set forth above, no other Trust representative shall appear

and/or testify in the Hanover Action without further Order of this Court.

4. Reservation of Rights and Consent to Jurisdiction. The Trust reserves all rights

and claims against Mr. Fose and his divorce counsel pertaining to the issuance of the Hanover

Subpoenas, the Contempt Motion, and the Contempt Order. Mr. Fose and his divorce counsel

and Ms. Fose and her divorce counsel submit to the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court as to the

interpretation and enforcement of this Stipulation and Agreed Oder, the Contempt Motion, and

the Contempt Order, and, pursuant to Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am., 511 U.S. 375

(1994), agree that the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction thereto.

5. Immediate Effect. This Stipulation and Agreed Order shall be immediately

enforceable and effective and any applicable stay is hereby waived.

Dated:

Richmond, Virginia

Kevin R. Huennekens, United States

Bankruptcy Judge

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### IT IS SO STIPULATED: BRANDI M. EVANS-FOSE

### CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. LIQUIDATING TRUST

/s/ Brian H. Jones

(Permission to affix signature on file)

Brian H. Jones (VSB #34786)

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Liquidating Trust

#### DAVID FOSE

/s/ Robert S. Westermann (Permission to affix signature received via email dated 06/26/2020)

Robert S. Westermann (VSB No. 43294)

Franklin R. Cragle, III (VSB No. 78398)

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Counsel for David Fose

# **CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT**

I hereby certify, under Local Rule 9022-1, that the foregoing proposed Stipulation and Agreed Order has been endorsed and/or served upon all necessary parties.

/s/ Paula S. Beran
Paula S. Beran, Esquire